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Newport Mercury.

ESTABLISHED, JUNE 12, 1758.

Volume 103.

Selected Tale.

The Shabby Young Man.

BY FRANCIS BOWNE.

OUR WILLY'S PRAYER.
All day with the toothache,
That terrible pest,
Our dear little Willy
Was sadly distressed;
His cheek was all swollen,
His mouth hot and red
When we laid him in nightfall
To rest on his bed.
We warmed his soft pillow,
And tucked him in snug,
And hoped he'd sleep soundly
As pass on the rug;
But also! that sad toothache
Came back with a pang,
And loud through the chamber
Our Willy's voice rang.
Poor child! How it grieved us.
"Don't cry, Willy, dear!"
And mamma from his cheek
Kissed a glittering tear.
"Try to sleep, my sweet darling!"
"I can't for the pain."
And loudly the sufferer
Cried out again.
"Oh, mother! it hurts so."
"I know it does, love."
The Good Man can cure it,
The Good Man above—
Oh, can't he, mother?"
"Yes, dear." "Oh, then pray
To the Good Man to take all
This toothache away."

It melted our feelings
To look in the face
Of our child, with its confident,
Innocent grace,
And he gazed up so earnest,
And asked us to pray
That the good man would take all
His toothache away.

Mamma broke the silence—
"You must pray, Willy, dear,
And I'm sure if you do
The good man will hear."

"But, mother, I can't pray."

"Say 'Our Father, my love.'

"Our Father"—with hands clasped,
And eyes raised above,

Lay out sweet little Willy,
And breathed out his prayer,

While we felt that the Lord
And his angels were there.

Then hushed was his murmur,
Soft closed was his eye—

From his innocent breast
Came a half-broken sigh.

How placid, and holy,
And calmly he lay.

Asleep on his pillow!—

Step softly away,
The angels are keeping

Their watch round his head—

All grief hath departed.

All anguish has fled.

Useful Hints.

APPLE PUDDINGS.—One pound of flour, six ounces of very finely minced beef; net; roll thin, and fill with one pound and a quarter of boiling apples; add grated rind and strained juice of a small lemon, tie it in a cloth; boil one hour and twenty minutes, or longer, in the water. A small slice of fresh butter stirred into it when it is sweetened will be an acceptable addition. Grated nutmeg, or cinnamon in fine powder, may be substituted for lemon-rind. For a richer pudding, use half a pound of butter for the crust, and add to the apples a spoonful of orange or quince marmalade.

SAVEN-BELL PASTY.—Shred a pound of suet, fine, cut salt pork into dice, potatoes and onions small, rub a sprig of dried sage up fine, mix with some pepper, and place in the corner of a square piece of paste, turn over the other corner, pinch up the sides, and bake in a quick oven. If any bones, &c., remain from the meat, season with pepper and sage, place them with a gill of water in a pan, and bake with the pastry; when done, strain, and pour the gravy into the centre of the pastry.

To DETECT COPPER IN PICKLES OR GREEN TEA.—Put a few leaves of the tea, or some of the tea, or some of the pickle, cut small, into a phial with two or three drachms of liquid ammonia, dilute with one half the quantity of water. Shake the phial, when, if the most minute portion of copper be present, the liquid will assume a fine blue color.

To CURE HAIR BRUSHES.—As hot water and soap very soon soften the hairs, and rubbing completes their destruction, use soda, dissolved in cold water, instead; soda having an affinity for grease, it cleans the brush with little friction. Do not set them near the fire, nor in the sun, to dry, but after shaking them well, set them on the point of the handle in a shady place.

A VERY PLEASANT PERFUME, and also a preventive against moths, may be made of the following ingredients:—Take of cloves, caraway seeds, nutmeg, mace, cinnamon, and Tonquin beans, of each one ounce; then add as much Florigene orris-root as will equal the other ingredients put together. Grind the whole well to powder, and then put it in little bags, among your clothes, &c.

Why do trees and flowers help to make country air sweet?—Because trees and flowers absorb the carbonic acid generated by the lungs of animals, purify substances, and other noxious exhalations; and 2. Trees and flowers restore to the air the oxygen, which has been inhaled by man and other animals.

If a 'puppy' adopts an disagreeable tone of voice, or offensive manner toward you, never resent it at the time, and, above all, do not adopt the same style in your conversation with him; appear not to notice it, and generally it will be discontinued, as it will be seen that it has failed in its object, besides which—you save your temper.

PAINT, made of blacklead and linseed oil, is perhaps the very best to use for in England, France, &c. Lead paints if absorbed by the poisons; but graphite paint is quite

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THE NEWPORT MERCURY.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1860.

AMONG the novel occurrences of the times, is the capture, (if the news has come correct,) of the celestial city of Pekin. Another battle followed the surprise and seizure of a small party which included the correspondent of the *London Times* and Lord ELGIN's secretary.—And it appears, that, while negotiations were pending the Chinese managed to draw up an army of some twenty thousand to command the ground where it had been arranged for the allied forces to encamp. Another reason for resuming hostilities against the Chinese is given, that the Allies found themselves surrounded by a hostile cavalry, making it necessary to attack them in their own defense. "In this situation, though in command of only about five thousand men, it was resolved to clear the road for their march upon the capital. And the result was such as to prove, that if the Chinese government had been treacherous, the Chinese people are at least exempt from some of the vices of a more warlike disposition; and that whatever they may become from necessity, they are at present the least efficient in battle of any nation in the world."

The report is, that the Chinese lost in this battle six hundred killed, and seventy-five guns which were captured. The loss of the Allies is any is not stated. But it seems the Chinese did not retreat; as two days afterwards, the Allies being reinforced advanced to attack them while in the same position. On this occasion however the Chinese were driven back, and the Allies obtained the command of a bridge over which they expected to march to Pekin. The loss of the British in this action is stated to have been only three killed and forty-seven wounded. The loss of the French is not stated; and we are left to conjecture what must have been that of the Chinese, except that forty-three guns were abandoned upon the field.—This brought the Allies in close proximity to the great city, the object perhaps of all their toils and dangers. The details to this point are no doubt evidence that it had been reached. And now the further news is published, as received in England, that Pekin surrendered to the Allies on the 13th of October, and that the Celestial Emperor had retired into Tartary.

This is an event of the most extraordinary character. The Allies, it is said, will winter in the capital. But perhaps they might have selected more comfortable quarters; as it is colder there in winter than in most other places in the same latitude, and fuel is very scarce.—And a greater misfortune may be, that there will be no government with which to conclude a peace upon any terms. The responsibility for the millions of China will be a burden perhaps, unless they acknowledge the rebels as the legitimate rulers of the Empire. But the statesmen of Europe have not yet had the sagacity to discover, that the Tartar dynasty were not legitimate; and that the revolutionists should be encouraged. Now, they may change their opinion. The object of the expedition, however, if the Allies can reimburse themselves for their expenses and trouble, will be gained. The great city will be more thoroughly explored, and made better known to the world than before.

Pekin is now understood to be only about as large as London in population, and to be situated about one hundred miles northwardly from the mouth of the Peiho; though it is only twelve miles distant from the nearest part of that river, and with one of its tributaries flowing through the city. The word, Pekin, is understood to mean the Northern capital; and it is built within a circumference of 25 miles.—The city is laid out in two grand divisions, each surrounded with walls 30 feet high, 20 feet thick at the bottom, but only 12 at the top, sloping down on the inside. The northern division has three enclosures, and the innermost is called the "Prohibited City," in which are the palaces and pleasure grounds of the Emperor and Empress. And these in architecture and arrangement are reported to be superior to anything else of the kind in China. In the prohibited precincts, also stands the marble gateway, through which and by five flights of stairs, the courtiers ascended to pay homage to the Emperor. On one side of this ascent to the presence hall, were the imperial library and cabinets; and, alas for its fate, the imperial treasury. Report says the Emperor's palace was sacked, and a large amount of spoils taken.—Will any of the victors like his fast three days before offering the annual sacrifice, at the winter solstice, a custom so nearly corresponding with their own Christmas?

MARION.—At the Annual Meeting of St. John Lodge, No. 1, held on Monday evening, Dec. 24th, the following officers were elected for the year ensuing, viz:

A. Hildreth, W. M.; J. W. Davis, S. W.; N. T. Briggs, J. W.; E. J. Townsend, Treas.; John S. Engs, Sec.; Wm. J. Underwood, S. D.; J. G. Spangler, J. D.; W. H. Westcott, S. S.; J. M. Anthony, J. S.; T. T. Carr, Chaplain; John Gladding, Tyler.

The officers elect were installed the same evening by M. W. WM. GRAY, Grand Master of R. I., assisted by W. GILBERT CHASE & D. G. M.

OUR CARRIERS who have during the present year from week to week served our patrons with the *Mercury*, desire us to state that they will pay them a visit on Tuesday next to wish them "A Happy New Year" and present them with something at once appropriate and useful. In return, we know our friends will attest their kindness by something more than words, making them rejoice that they have been faithful to the trust reposed in them.

THE Governor of South Carolina, PICKENS, who in his boyhood attended Col. *Tower's* school in this city, says in his inaugural address that he expects his State to establish free trade, and that upon the question of secession there can be no compromise. He prefers peace, but if the Federal Government will not allow peace, then he is ready for war.

THE *Narragansett Weekly* states that a gray eagle measuring six feet eight inches from the tips of his wings was killed in Charlestown on Monday last. He had descended to the farm of Dr. J. G. PIERCE for his Christmas dinner and had taken off a turkey's head and devoured a portion of its body, but just as he was about to fly away he was shot.

ACCORDING to the *Scientific American*, the number of patents which have been granted during the present year amount to three thousand, eight hundred and ninety-six.

We learn that the next session of the Province Annual Conference will be held at Providence on the 3d of April next, and that Bishop SAUNDERS will preside.

The Committee of thirty-three have not yet reported. They have adopted a resolution requesting the States to revise their statutes, with a view of ascertaining whether any of them tend to hinder the execution of the fugitive slave law. And it is reported that the Republican members have voted in gauge to recommend the passage of an enabling act, by which New Mexico can enter the Union with slavery, as provided by the 2d section of the Territorial Organization act of 1850.

INFORMATION from Russia is indicative of progress in that quarter. Their public journals appear to sympathize with the Italians in their great movement for union and liberty.—And the Warsaw Conference has not effected any approximation of views between the cabinets of St. Petersburg and Vienna. No disposition appears to exist in Russia to rally or to join in a crusade against the excommunicated VICTOR EMANUEL. The course he has pursued appears indeed to meet with universal approval. The Moscow *Vedomosti*, which is said to have the largest circulation of any Russian newspaper, pronounced the following eulogium upon GARIBOLDI: "The purest and most glorious character of the age, admired by all generous minds, and whom none but soulless bigots could revile or asperse." This is the more remarkable as the Russian ambassador was so lately recalled from Turin. But the Czar can hardly afford to be generous upon the subject of nationalities—or rather perhaps it would be good policy for him to be more generous upon the subject of nationalities.—The press in Finland has been cautioned by Count BREK, the Governor-General, not to say too much upon revolutionary proceedings in Italy. And yet it is expected that the Czar will at last emancipate the serfs, a measure however not yet accomplished. Some further proceedings are to be had in council, and then the final decree will shortly be promulgated perhaps. The details of this emancipation are said to be still a profound secret. The public are only assured that it will satisfy everybody. But that means perhaps that everybody must submit to it whether liking it or not. The condition of the peasantry may be ameliorated or their servitude only changed in form without hope of improvement. And it is strange that our Southern friends have not thought of some expedient to avoid the odium, and we can afford to dismiss all apprehension of harm to come to this republican country, because we happen to be akin to a people under a monarch. Nevertheless it was a strange event, and so is the notice given by the Prince Consort, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, that the annual prize of a gold medal will be given this year to such resident undergraduate as shall compose the best poem on "The Prince of Wales at the Tomb of WASHINGTON."

COUNT PERSIGNY, Minister of the Interior in France, has lately issued a circular address relative to the press in that country. Having been for a long time and until lately a resident Minister in England, he seems to have acquired a taste for the liberty of the press as it exists in that country. As there every one boasts of that liberty, while in France there is so much uneasiness on the same subject on account of restrictions. And yet he proves from English history, that the press in England has been, and that it still is subject to terrible legislation. He cannot understand, it seems, why the great freedom enjoyed by the English press should be coveted on the continent, when it is subjected to the most severe and the most vigorous legislation. But perhaps the astonishment of PERSIGNY would be a little abated, if he should consider the difference between the two countries in the application of the same imperial and arbitrary power. One is through a censorship in the hands of an executive officer; while the restraint of the other is administered upon general principles under the supervision of Courts of Justice and on the verdict of a Jury. In one case, the subject is not left to his discretion so much; while in the other, he has the advantage of acting on his own responsibility and under a consciousness of the right of self-government.

The deaths of 1859 exceeded those of the previous year by 237, the number being 4500.—There were 112 more boys born than girls, and the statistics of past years show about 106 boys to 100 girls.

The colored people in the State increased in number last year, the deaths being three less than the births, which is different from previous years.

The proportion of deaths at advanced age was greater among colored people than among whites. The only centenarians that died last year were colored—one, James Howard, of Jamestown, being the last of the Rhode Island slaves.

As to the causes of death, this report presents matter for study. 432 deaths were ascribed to consumption, 117 to old age, 116 to pneumonia, 71 to scrofula, 68 to typhoid and typhus fever, 81 to infant mortality, 59 to heart disease, 88 to croup, &c. Diphtheria is charged with 20 deaths.

CHRISTMAS was very generally observed by our citizens. In the forenoon appropriate services were held in Episcopal and Catholic churches, all of which were ornamented with evergreens. The Sunday schools enjoyed the treats, some on Christmas eve and others on Christmas day. We took occasion to visit the evening school in Young street on Monday evening, to see how the steamer was faring.

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REAL ESTATE SALES, are hardly worthy of notice now; times are hard, and people have no desire to speculate.

The heirs of John P. Mann have sold a lot on Ayrault street adjoining the estate of John T. Bush, contains 12,555 feet of land, to James C. Powell for \$1,250.50.

William C. Tennant has sold the lot of land 100 by 50 feet and stable on Touro street to John F. Tennant for \$2000.

The estate on the North side of Parade belonging to the heirs of the late Catherine Dennis, has been sold to Sarah B. Dennis by the rest of the heirs.

Andrew Halpin has sold to Richard Skelly a lot on Prospect Hill street, containing 1657 square feet, for \$255.

Henry H. Young has sold to Jeremiah Goodspeed a piece of land on Poplar street, for \$200, and since then the lot has been purchased by Solomon Braman.

THE Charleston people on the day of secession were in high glee and undoubtedly thought they had knocked the United States "all to finders." They cheered for the Southern confederacy and cursed the North and finally threw to the breeze a banner representing an arch formed of the fifteen Southern States, typified by blocks of stone; the statue of Calhoun and the figures of Faith and Hope surmounting this arch; inside the arch, the snake-encircled palmetto, with a scroll floating from it bearing the words "Southern Republic;" at the base of the arch, the Northern States as blocks broken in fragments, and underneath all, the motto "Built from the Ruins."

THE annual meeting for the choice of officers for the Hervea Engine Company No. 7, was held on Tuesday evening last, and the following persons were elected:

Captain—Arnold L. Burdick. Lieutenant—James Hogan. Clerk & Treasurer—Thomas Scott. 1st Assistant—William Perry. 2nd Assistant—Nathaniel Wilson. Engineer—Benjamin Nason.

Mr. Thomas A. SEAMORE has been appointed Lighthouse Inspector for the Massachusetts District, and Com. WM. H. TAYLOR for the Maine District.

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THE new Fire Alarm Bell was placed in the cupola of the City Hall yesterday, and we are very sure that its peals will be heard in all parts of the city. Its weight is about 1400 pounds.

A semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. has been declared by the O. C. & F. R. Railroad Company, payable January 22d.

In one short street in Bristol, says the *Advertiser*, there are residing upwards of thirty widows.

Another column will be found the latest news from South Carolina.

THE Duke of Newcastle, the same who accompanied the Prince of Wales in his visit to this continent, was lately installed as Grand Master of Nottinghamshire. At a Masonic Banquet held on the occasion, his Grace made a speech, which was afterwards published and has come over to this country. He said, one of their great principles as Freemasons was, obedience to all constituted authorities. And in that country of course he was especially devoted to the existing authorities of the realm; not simply however because they were, but because they were such as he wished them to be. And upon this American principles would be correct, if the whole nation should agree to the same proposition through the free choice of a majority. But it is not likely that the two systems could be made uniform in this respect; if they should be, it is probable they would soon become alike in most other respects.—That there is a tendency to uniformity, however, may be discovered from the good understanding which generally prevails between the two nations. The chief topic of this speech is his tour with the Prince in America. No doubt it was gratifying; as the Duke has intimated, to witness the respect paid to English royalty present and prospective. But this was chiefly, if not entirely, only a complimentary display, and as such very creditable to the civilization of the American people. Not destitute of sincere respect, but at the same time very consistent with their love of shows and of showing themselves. Too much importance may be attached by the English mind to the fact, from the circumstance that we were delighted in this country with ceremonies, which they would not tolerate in theirs, if similar attentions were in England bestowed upon a foreign prince. Our civilization in this respect may be higher, and we can afford to dismiss all apprehension of harm to come to this republican country, because we happen to be akin to a people under a monarch. Nevertheless it was a strange event, and so is the notice given by the Prince Consort, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, that the annual prize of a gold medal will be given this year to such resident undergraduate as shall compose the best poem on "The Prince of Wales at the Tomb of WASHINGTON."

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